

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 20, 2006. Claims 15-18, 25-28 and 33 are presented for examination. Claims 19-24, 29-32 and 34 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 15-18, 25-28 and 33 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested. The canceled claims will not be further addressed herein.

The specification has been amended to conform the Summary of Invention section to the amended claims.

Claims 25-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,463,307 (Larsson); Claims 15-18, 20, 21 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Larsson et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,085,112 (Kleinschmidt); and Claims 19 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Larsson in view of Kleinschmidt as applied to claim 15, and in further view of Haartsen (BLUETOOTH - The universal radio interface for ad hoc, wireless connectivity, Ericsson Review No. 3, 1998).

As shown above, Applicants have amended independent Claims 15, 25 and 33 in terms that more clearly define what they regard as their invention. Applicants submit that these amended independent claims, together with the remaining claims dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

Claim 15 is directed to a communication apparatus including a wireless communication portion configured to wirelessly communicate with another communication apparatus and a confirmation portion configured to execute a process for confirming an error state of a predetermined function of the other communication apparatus. Also included is a change portion

configured to change a communication state with the other communication apparatus by the wireless communication portion into a state of low electric power consumption when the predetermined function of the other communication apparatus is confirmed as not the error state, and not to change a communication state with the other communication apparatus by the wireless communication portion into a state of low electric power consumption when the predetermined function of the other communication apparatus is confirmed as the error state.

Among other notable features of Claim are (1) a confirmation portion configured to execute a process for confirming an error state of a predetermined function of the other communication apparatus and (2) a change portion configured to change a communication state with the other communication apparatus by the wireless communication portion into a state of low electric power consumption when the predetermined function of the other communication apparatus is confirmed as not the error state, and not to change a communication state with the other communication apparatus by the wireless communication portion into a state of low electric power consumption when the predetermined function of the other communication apparatus is confirmed as the error state.

Larsson relates to the management of power consumption of a mobile terminal in a communication network. The mobile terminal remains in a hibernation state until it either (1) hears a paging message from a base station or (2) determines that it has a data packet to send to the base station. The base station specifies how often the mobile terminal listens for paging messages. If there are no paging messages when the mobile terminal listens, and if the mobile terminal has no packets to send to the base station, then the mobile terminal restarts the time period and continues to hibernate. The base station of Larsson can also send to the mobile terminal a packet containing hibernation instructions and a new, specified time period or frequency at which to listen for paging

messages.

If the mobile terminal of Larsson determines, while it is in the hibernation state, that it has a packet to send to the base station, it can change from the hibernation state to the awake state and send a capacity request signal to the base station to initiate transfer of the packet from the mobile terminal to the base station.

Larsson also discusses a system wherein an agent, located in the base station, keeps a mirror image of a managed information base of the mobile terminal, and answers connectivity test inquiries from the network on behalf of the mobile terminal while the mobile terminal remains in the hibernation state. However, Applicants submit that nothing in Larsson teaches or suggests “a confirmation portion configured to execute a process for confirming an error state of a predetermined function of the other communication apparatus” or “a change portion configured to change a communication state with the other communication apparatus by said wireless communication portion into a state of low electric power consumption when the predetermined function of the other communication apparatus is confirmed as not the error state, and not to change a communication state with the other communication apparatus by said wireless communication portion into a state of low electric power consumption when the predetermined function of the other communication apparatus is confirmed as the error state,” as recited in Claim 15.

Applicants have found nothing in Kleinschmidt, which is cited as disclosing a mobile terminal controlled by a processor and its program, or Haartsen, which is cited as disclosing wireless communication between two electronic devices in the Bluetooth Standard, that would teach or suggest the above mentioned features of Claim 15. Thus, the disclosures of Kleinschmidt and Haartsen do not remedy the deficiencies of Larsson.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 15 is patentable over Larsson,

- Kleinschmidt and Haartsen, whether considered separately or in any permissible combination (if any).

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant's opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against Claim 15.

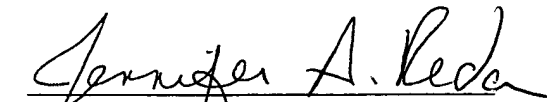
Independent Claims 25 and 33 are method and storage medium claims, respectively, corresponding to apparatus Claim 15, and are believed to be patentable over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 15.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request early and favorable continued examination of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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